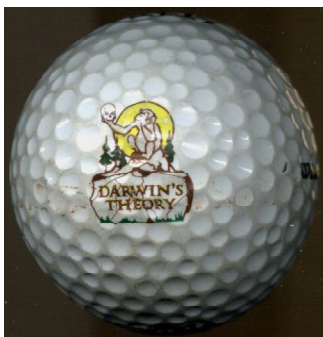
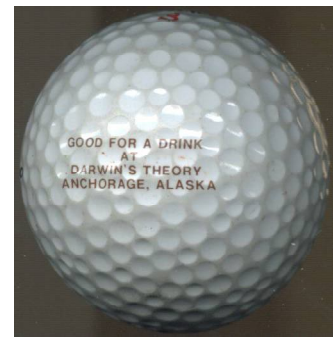


ODD



Our candidate for “odd” puts in a repeat appearance. We showed this golf ball good for in January of 1998. Skip Pelletier, proprietor of the Fishhook Golf Course in Palmer sent it in. Darwin’s Theory was a small bar in downtown Anchorage. A monkey is contemplating a human skull. It seems reminiscent of Shakespear’s Hamlet (alas poor Yorick....), but I digress. Then again, perhaps it is examin-

ing the “reverse evolution” brought about by drunkenness. This is one token that had better be used for the first or second round of drinks, because if you dropped it later in the evening, you would never catch up with it.



ODDER

“Odder” yet are drink tokens made from animal parts. As discussed in David Phillips column on page 63, Mentasta Lodge has used home-made wooden drink tokens. Being a “wood” collector, Dave only collected the wooden tokens, much to my disappointment. But never fear, we present, for your enjoyment and elucidation, Drink and Beer tokens made from..... Caribou antler. No animals were harmed in writing the article.



Mentasta Lodge is on the “Tok Cut-off” that connects the Alaska Highway with the Richardson Highway at Gakona. It is a short cut if you are driving “the Highway” and going to Anchorage. They offer meals and lodging, a bar and other services for travelers. Their website is www.mentastalodge.com.

ODDEST

But the “oddest” of all has to be a token made from a dried sourdough mini-pancake. KUAC (public radio in Fairbanks) has an Alaska news show every Sunday morning. My ears perked up when I heard “good for.” Further research reveals that every evening at the Sourdough Campground in Tok, visitors are invited to attempt to toss a left-over pancake into a bucket to win a free stack of pancakes. If you succeed, you receive a mini-pancake marked with a “W” to indicate you are a winner, and you can redeem this token at breakfast the next morning. Unfortunately, we did not receive a specimen in time to include with this article.



Santa throwing out the season’s first pancake!--->>>

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

One never knows what will turn up collecting Alaska tokens. The best indication of that is our front page article. Just about anything can be used as a "good for" token. I have an idea for the Georgeson Botanical Garden where my wife works. If all goes according to plan, it will be available next summer. Just thought I would hang that out there!

Kurtis Hawk has once again been scouring eBay for tokens to include in "For the Record." And I already have enough for the next issue, maybe even the one after that.

Speaking of eBay, the auction results this past month have been disappointing. Lots of unsold or sold at the minimum bid. A bright spot for this month was a 1/4 DWT AYPE gold token, NGC-64PL with on opening bid of \$3950 **not selling!** That is good news. The seller was reaching for the moon (or maybe Jupiter), and no one bit on it.

The second meeting of the Alaska Commemorative Coin Commission will be Sept. 1. Your editor is a member of this commission. Our first meeting on August 4. I was interested to learn that the mint does not request designs, but "narratives." The narratives suggest what the person would like to see on the quarter and why, and the mint does the designing. Guess this comes from some disputes with the mint re-designing some designs on the earlier quarters. Probably not a bad idea.

Alaskan Token Collector & Polar Numismatist, published 10 times per year, is a publication of Alaska Rare Coins. All articles remain the property of the authors and may not be reprinted without their consent.

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 United States - \$15 per year
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PRICES REALIZED

Selected prices realized from eBay:

Anchorage , Canteen, 12½¢, B-10a	55.00OB
Anchorage , Canteen, 12½¢, B-10a	40.00OB
Anchorage , Masonic, B-28aii	125.50
Bethel , NC Co., 50¢, B-2b	95.00OB
Chatanika , Bingle Fritz, 25¢, B-1a	OB75.00NB
Chatanika , Bingle Fritz, \$1, B-1c	75.00OB
Cleary , Willis & Welch, 25¢, B-5a	49.00OB
Cordova , Harry & Charley, 5¢, B-14a	50.00OB
Cordova , Horseshoe Liq., 6¼¢, B-20a	OB45.00NB
Cordova , Rosswog, 6¼¢, B-34b	OB45.00NB
Cordova , W.H. Bar, 6¼¢, B-41b	OB195.00NB
Cordova , W.H. Bar, 6¼¢, B-41b	RL95.00OB
Cordova , Windor Hotel, 6¼¢, B-41a	125.00OB
Douglas , Pal. of Sweets, 6¼¢, B-31a	272.00
Eek , McIntyre, 50¢, B-1b	45.00OB
Excursion Inlet , APSCCo, \$1 "S", B-1e	97.00
Fort Yukon , Carter, 50¢, B-3c	262.00
Haines , Teddy Bear, 10¢, unlisted	34.37
Hawk Inlet , Harris, 10¢, B-1b	104.15
Ketchikan , Lotus, 12½¢, B-31f	79.67
Kodiak , Club Liquor Store, encased cent	72.77
Latouche , Little, 12½¢, B-2a	125.00OB
Long , Willis, 25¢, B-1a	OB49.00NB
Nabesna , N. Trd. Co., \$1, B-1a	103.51
Seldovia , Joe Hill, 25¢, B-2b	513.00
Seward , Northern, 12½¢, B-8biii	OB39.99NB
Seward , Palace Bar, 6¼¢, B-9aii	580.00
Seward , Palace, 12½¢, B-9c	29.99OB
Seward , Up & Up, 12½¢, B-18a	95.00OB
Sitka , Anderson, 10¢, B-3c	195.00OB
Sitkinak , J.B. Poker Chip, unlisted	34.33
Skagway , BPOE, B-2a	42.52
Skagway , (Horseshoe), 6¼¢, B-13a	75.00OB
Skagway , Shooting Gal., 10¢, B-25aii	OB125.00NB
Snug Harbor , Pioneer, \$1.25 Bx, B-2a	OB40.00NB
Talkeetna , HWN, 50¢, B-3b	30.00
Tenakee , Tillicum Club, 6¼¢, B-5a	292.00
Valdez , Buffet, 12½¢, B-4b	35.00OB
Valdez , Day, 6¼¢, B-5a	95.00OB
Valdez , I&B, no denomination, B-9a	OB90.00NB
Valdez , Northern, 6¼¢, B-15a	OB40.00NB
Maverick , The Tanana, 5¢	12.50
Dawson YT , Hutton & Pearse, 2 Bits	RL81.00
Dawson YT , Monte Carlo, 25¢	414.00
Alaska Tin , 1903 Expo	261.28
AYPE , ¼DWT, NGC-64PL (who cares)	OB3950.00NB
AYPE , ½ DWT	190.50
AYPE , 1 DWT	151.00
AYPE , set of 3, all slabbed ICG-58	OB950.00NB
Tierra del Fuego , Popper, 1 Gramo	OB500.00NB

Ketchikan, First Nat'l Bank \$20* 17,500.00
 * - Ex-Hoppenmeyer/Burnett. Note has been "improved."

OB = Opening Bid NB = No Bid RL = relist
 RNM = Reserve Not Met R = Reserve
 BIN = Buy it now

GOLD TOKEN UPDATE!



We are pleased to announce that the striking of our gold tokens is progressing nicely. We have struck 24, with a few blanks left before we need to melt our scrap and start again (which we will do shortly).

It is learning process, and in that process, I think that the product is improving a little bit with each change in procedure.

When processing the gold for the first strikes, I annealed (heated to soften) the ingot when it was being rolled to the appropriate thickness for the tokens. When I punched out the blanks with the disk cutter, most times there was extra metal around the edge where the blanks were not cut well.

On the last ingot, I rolled the ingot to thickness (about .6mm) without annealing. This resulted in a harder strip that cut cleaner when the blanks were punched out. The blanks were then annealed before striking.

I would like to offer all of those who purchased tokens with serial number of 19 or lower the opportunity to return their token for a better one. Let me know, and I will send one of the later strikes on approval. You can keep the one you like, and return the other. Or, if you are just a bit obsessive, you can keep both, and pay only \$45 for the second one (I will cover postage). I think that is a pretty fair deal.

For those wondering, all the tokens struck (except for the first three) have been struck from gold from Gold King Creek in the Bonnifield Mining District. This area is south of Fairbanks, between the Tanana River and the Alaska Range. Gold from the “Bonnifield” (I have no specific report for Gold King) range from a low of .829 to a high of .900½. Not bad gold!



(SALCHA): The Knotty Shop, Free Single Scoop, bifacial. Black on wood. Dave missed this one (but he drove right by it), but never fear, he has one now.

ANOTHER SPITZBERGEN DISASTER “TOKEN”



Those fine folks who brought you the submarine Kursk, European Floods and 9/11 disaster tokens are at it again. This 10 Ruble token from Artikugol has a mintage of 1,200. Artikugol is the Russian coal mining company on Spitzbergen. Since all are proofs, it is highly unlikely these were ever intended to circulate. It is so easy to get authority to issue a coin in a country name (such as South Georgia and South Sandwich Island, that one must assume it is even easier to get “authority” to issue a token in a company name. If they were not so expensive, they would be fun.

NEW YUKON TOKENS



Dave Phillips did good for your editor, adding these two tokens to his Yukon collection. The K.P. Inn is from “three owners ago,” so it is not a current token, but the Gateway Lounge is still in use.

HAINES JCT.: K.P. Inn (Kluane Park Inn), One Well Drink. Black on yellow plastic, 38mm.

HAINES JUNCTION: Gateway Lounge, 1 Drink. Blue on wood.

MONEY TO BURN

by David Phillips

I am fresh from a most interesting and enjoyable 17 day trip to the Yukon and Alaska. My wife and I flew from Vancouver to Whitehorse, picked up a rental car and drove north to Dawson City, west north west to Fairbanks, south to Anchorage, and east back to Whitehorse. We covered in excess of 4500Km (3000 miles), during which we got, not only to the centres noted above, but to many small towns (where wooden nickels lurked). Our trip accomplished three things very successfully: we saw and thoroughly enjoyed the wonderful scenery, the many fine tours and exhibits and we met many kind and helpful people.

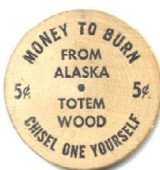
We got to meet and say Thank You for favours to some great people I have met via eBay and the internet. Special mention goes to Dick Hanscom (and Jan) of Fairbanks, Molly Baker (and Stacy) of Eagle River and Ken Rieck (and Joyce) of Anchorage. Their help and friendship is very much appreciated.

I was able to stop at many of the small towns and search out wooden tokens/nickels. Because of the success of my sleuthing, my cajoling, my whining and pleading, etc., I was able to pick up not only a number of woods to fill blank places in my collection, but I also found about 39 "new" woods. Also, whilst taking to folks I picked up a lot of "tidbits of information" relative to many woods. I thought I would pass along a few this month.

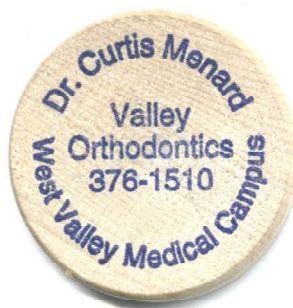
So, a few comments on some "new" woods:



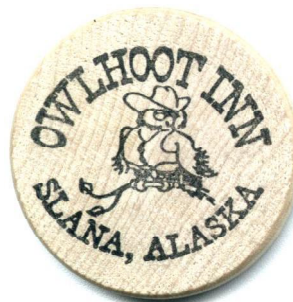
Delta Junction: Buffalo Drive-In. When I was reading a visitors brochure on Delta Junction, I noticed an advertisement for the Buffalo Drive In, in which the logo used in the ad looked like a wooden nickel. So, when we were passing through we stopped at the Drive In, and, sure enough, wooden tokens are given out to kids and can be redeemed by them for an ice cream cone at a later date.



Mentasta: Mentasta Lodge. Homemade woods. These woods were the last two wooden tokens in the Lodge's bar. The new batch of tokens are similar sized rounds sliced from caribou antler, stamped with "Mentasta Lodge, etc.



Wasilla: Dr. Curtis Menard used three woods. Dr. Menard started issuing these woods approximately 1992. They were given to his dentistry patients when they came in for regular checkups. After 10 or so tokens had been collected, they could be redeemed for movie tickets or a similar reward. Dr. Menard was killed in a private plane crash in 2000 and the program ceased at that time.

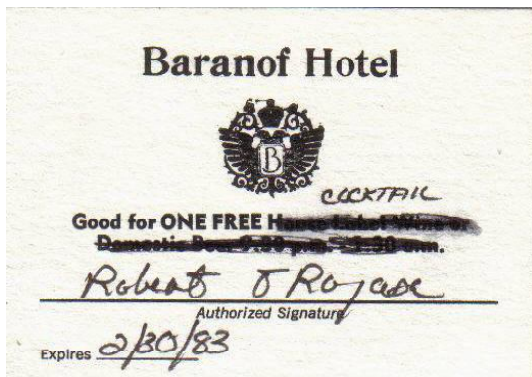


Slana: Owlhoot Inn. This Inn was always off the highway, a fair bit off the beaten track. It has been out of business for some 10 years. (ed. note: the owl looks like he just flew in from Texas).

These are just a few of the wood I encountered on our trip. Other will periodically be featured in "For the Record."

Finally, can anyone identify where "4 Corners, Alaska is?"

PAPER POTPOURRI



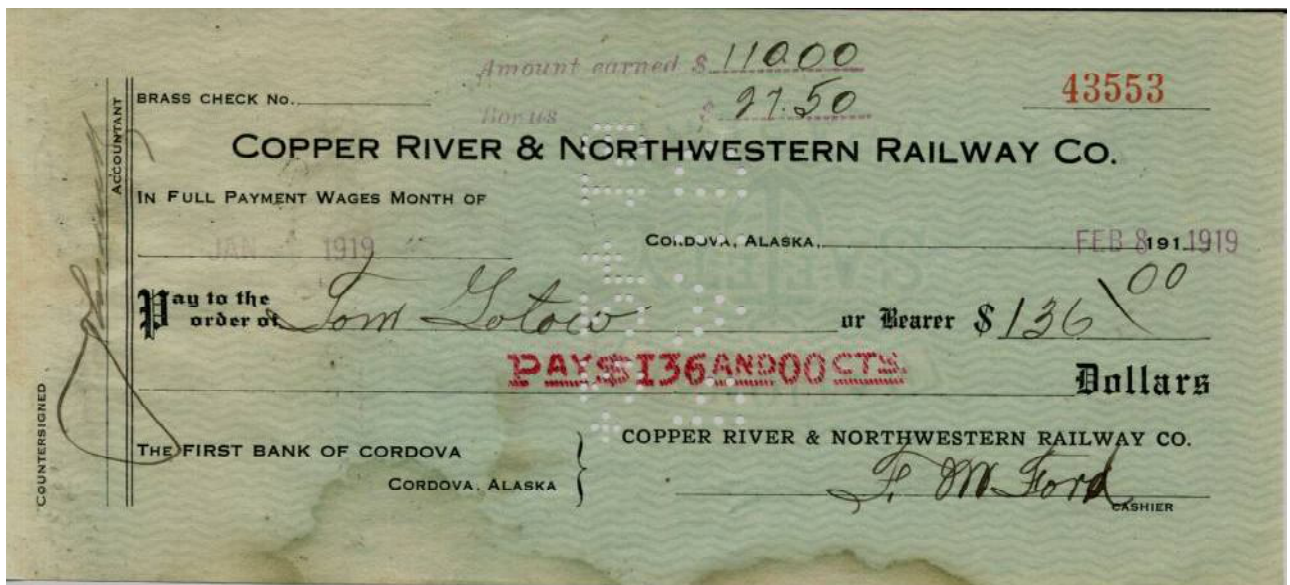
JUNEAU: Baranof Hotel, good for one Free Cocktail. Black on cardboard, 89mm by 64mm, illustration reduced (submitted by Kurtis Hawk).



WHITEHORSE: Murdoch's Mad Money, \$1. Brown on beige with red serial number. 139mm by 63mm (above and right) (submitted by Jim Robb).



KODIAK: Alaskan Dollar (Snow Flake Certificate) issued by the Rendezvous and Lill's Cafe. 184 by 102mm, illustration reduced (submitted by Kaye Dethridge).



CORDOVA: Copper River & Northwestern Railway Co. check. Black on security green with red serial number and imprint, actual size 202mm by 91mm. What is interesting about this check is that in the upper left corner there is a space to write in "Brass Check No." Our assumption has to be that this refers to the brass checks in the back of "Alaska Tokens," B-C5a. Another find of David Phillips on his whirlwind tour of Alaska!

MILITARY CHALLENGE COINS



EIELSON AFB: 354 Civil Engineer Squadron, From thought to Deed, Arctic Engineers. Black, blue, white and red enamel on bronze (submitted by Kurtis Hawk).



ELMENDORF AFB: 3rd Wing, Presented for excellence by the Commander. Light blue, black, green, yellow, silver and white enamel on silver colored metal, 40mm (submitted by Kurtis Hawk).



ELMENDORF AFB: Dining Out hosted by 381st Intelligence Squadron, 1 Mar 2002. Poor scan, but appears to be at least red, white and blue enamel on bronze.



ANCHORAGE: FBI, Anchorage Division. Red white and blue enamel on bronze (submitted by Kurtis Hawk).

EDITOR'S NOTE: Most Challenge Coins are about 38 to 40mm, though some are larger. Sizes are not usually reported in eBay listings. All are shown at approximately 38mm, but it must be realized that unless the size is noted in the description, this may not be accurate.

COOL AWARD!

Here is an interesting "trophy." This was awarded to John Roberts by the Executive Committee of the Alaska Yukon Pacific Exposition.

The engraving reads:

(Above the AYPE Logo): John W. Roberts/Council

(Below the AYPE Logo): Presented by the / Executive Committee / In Recognition / Of / Services Rendered.

It is over 6 inches wide, and about 10 inches high. The "white" curved handles are walrus tusks. It is marked Adelphi Silver Co., New York on the bottom (submitted by David Thorton).



FOR THE RECORD



ANCHORAGE: American Legion, Jack Henry Post 1, You have 1 coming. Set of 3 plastic, 41mm, gold on white, red and black.



ANCHORAGE: Icons Lounge. Set of 4 plastic, all gold printing, 28mm; Top shelf (black), Well drink (blue), Import beer (yellow) and Domestic beer (red).



DELTA JUNCTION: Delta-Clearwater 911 Moose Lodge. Two plastic tokens, 38mm. "Tuit Drink" is gold on black; Tuit (also a drink token) is silver on red. Lettering and moose head different from those reported last month.



ANCHORAGE: VFW Post 9978, Good for one drink, set of 4 plastic, 41mm. White printing on black, green and red, black printing on white.



EAGLE RIVER: VFW Post 9685, good for one drink, set of 4 plastic, 41mm; white printing on blue, brown and purple, black printing on pink.



COLD BAY: Bearfoot Bar, set of 8 plastic, 28mm, all with gold printing: Well (yellow), Call (black), \$2.25 Beer (purple), Bottle beer (blue), Wine (red), Import bottle (white), Can beer (green), and Premium (brown).



EAGLE RIVER: VFW Post 9785. Same detail as above, but probably misprint as there is no listing for Post 9785.

FOR THE RECORD, CONT.



FAIRBANKS: Señor Flannigan's Steak Pit, \$5 good towards next purchase, exp. 01/01/10, 41mm, gold on red plastic.



JUNEAU: Moose Lodge 700, good for one mixed drink or beer. Gold on yellow plastic, 41mm.



FAIRBANKS: Oasis Restaurant & Lounge set of two plastic tokens, black printing, 41mm: \$3.25 (blue), \$4.00 (red).



KETCHIKAN: Sally's 108, good for one beer. Black on yellow plastic, 38mm.



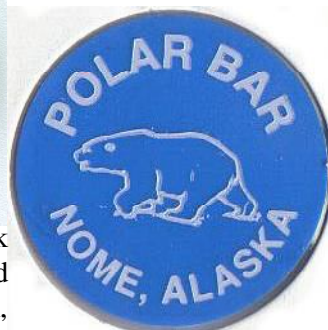
KENAI: See Soldotna



(FOX, AK): Turtle Club. Three different green drink tokens: white on dark green, and black on bright and light green. The beer token is also a different green, let's call it dull green. The turtles are also a different size. The dark green drink and the beer tokens have a smaller turtle, while the bright green and light green have a large turtle.



KODIAK: BPOE (Elks) 1772, good for 1 Well Drink. Gold on purple plastic, 41mm.



NOME: Polar Bar, good for a drink. White on blue plastic, 41mm.



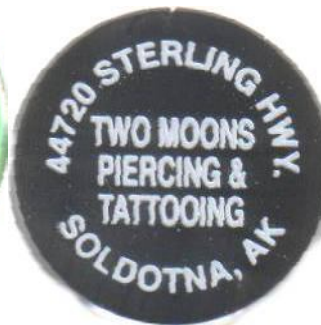
FOR THE RECORD, CONT.



PELICAN: Rose's Bar & Grill, good for one drink. Gold on red plastic, 28mm.



PETERS CREEK: American Legion Post 33, good for one drink. Black on lime green plastic, 41mm.



SOLDOTNA: Two Moons Piercing and Tattooing, good for \$5 off. Set of 5 plastic, all with white printing, 41mm; blue, green, black, purple and red.



PETERSBURG: Moose Lodge #1092, good for one drink. White on red plastic, 38mm.



VALDEZ: Aerie #1971 (Eagles), \$5. White on red plastic, 28mm.



SITKA: Moose Lodge No. 1350, When you get around TUIT Ya gotta drink coming. Black on green plastic, 41mm.



YAKUTAT: Glacier Bear Lodge, good for one free drink. Black on blue, 41mm.

SOLDOTNA-KENAI: Alaska Cab/Independent Living Center. Token shows a fare range and the number of tokens required to pay the fare. White on red plastic, 41mm. (illustrated at the top of the next column).

All items in this month's "For the Record" (with the exception of Fox Turtle Club) submitted by Kurtis Hawk. He has been a busy boy on eBay, and has already sent in items for the next issue.